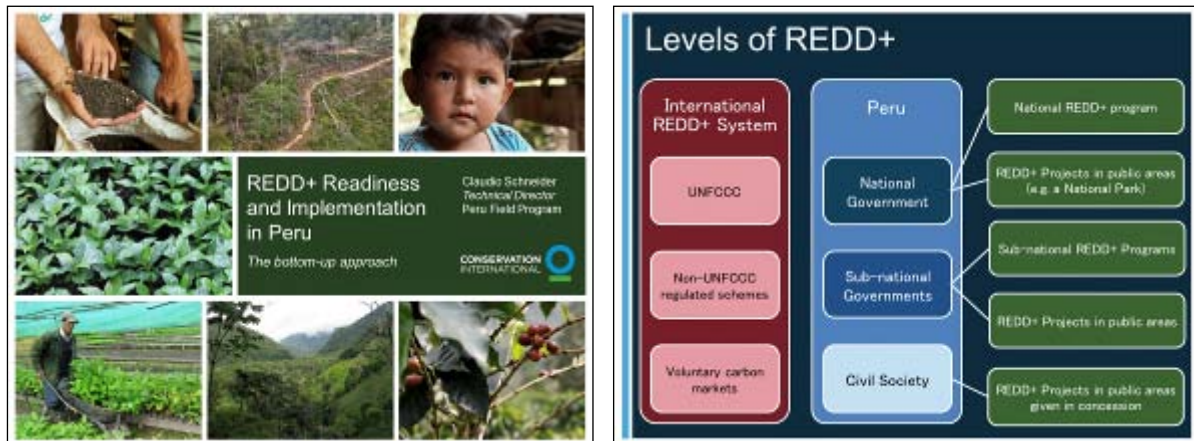
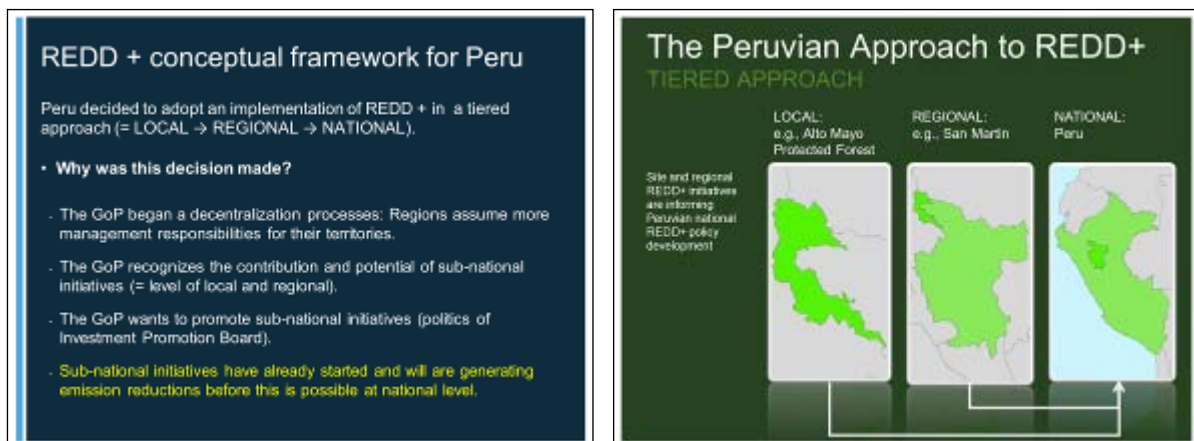


REDD+ Readiness and Implementation in Peru

Claudio Schneider (Conservation International Peru)

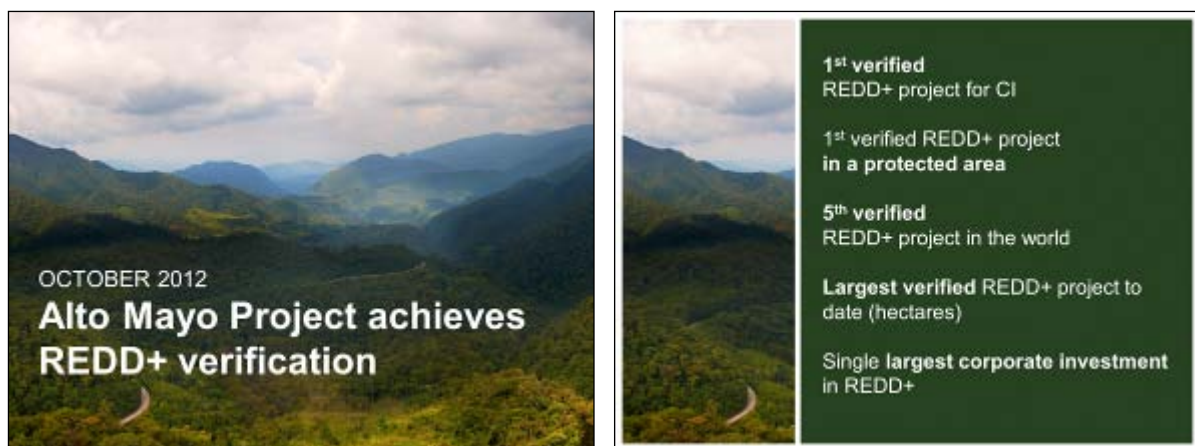


Peru is one of the countries that has been very cautious about REDD from the beginning and some say this has been a smart approach to REDD, but this is due mostly to certain conditions that took place in the country. First of all, if we look at REDD in general and we look at the international level, we have the UNFCCC framework. Then, we have non-UNFCCC systems like the California schemes or some bilateral schemes between states or sub-national governments. Then we have the voluntary markets too.



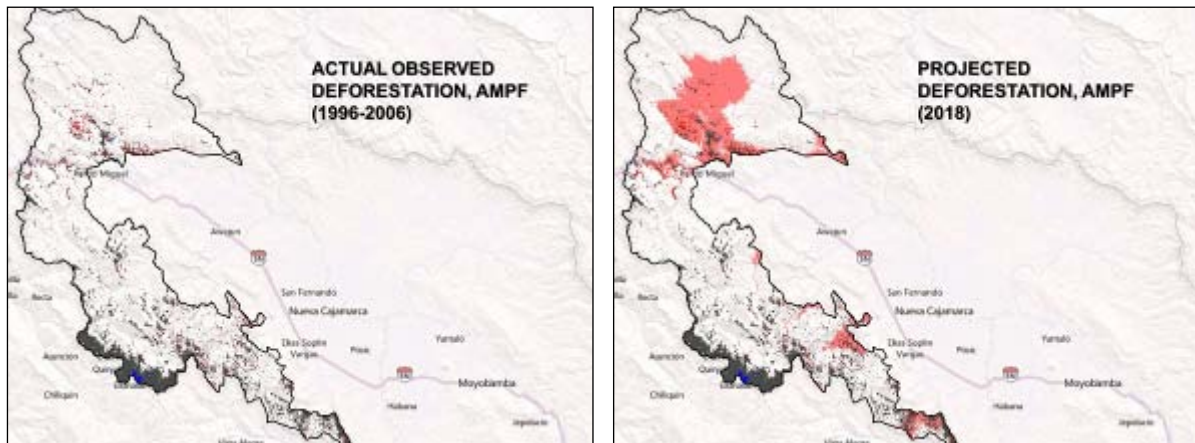
At the national level in Peru, we have 3 distinct levels as well. We have the national government, we have sub-national governments, provinces or states, and at the smallest scale, we have civil society organizations. At the national level, the government is working at the Development of National REDD Program, but there is also the possibility of implementing REDD Projects in public areas as well. At the subnational level, subnational governments are also developing their programs and they could also have REDD Projects in public areas that belong to the sub-national government. Then we have civil society organizations, which are basically the component that has been leading the development of REDD in the country from the beginning.

There are about 35 projects in Peru at different stages of development, the first of which started to be developed about 5 years ago. The government basically looked at this and decided to learn from this civil society or private experiences in order to build or develop the National REDD Program. Why did the Government of Peru decide to do this? It is due to several reasons: The first one, probably the most important one is that civil society and private sector took the lead and some of their REDD- projects are already generating emission reductions. At the national level, the government has been basically taking its time to develop policies, so it is going to take a while to come up with a national program. In the meantime, there are other national policies that also favor this approach, as the country has started a decentralization process by which subnational governments, provinces are getting more authority over their resources. Finally, the government is trying to promote investments at the subnational level.



I am going to start describing each one of these levels of REDD, starting with the project level. I am going to focus on a particular example, which is the Alto Mayo Project, which is a project that has been developed by Conservation International. The Alto Mayo Project achieved verification in October.

It is the first verified project of Conservation International, but is also the first REDD verified project in a national protected area and the fifth verified REDD Project worldwide. It is also the largest verified REDD Project to-date, in terms of hectares, and it is also the single largest corporate investment in REDD. This is important because the success of implementing REDD actions, REDD activities on the ground needs the support from different funding sources and private-public alliances are a very effective way of obtaining the resources necessary to achieve these activities on the ground.



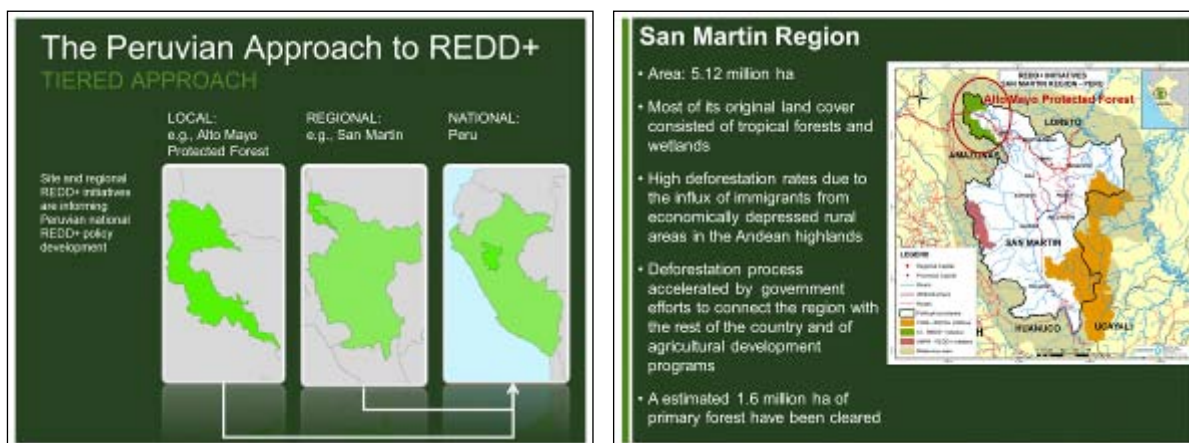
This is a map of the Alto Mayo, which depicts the history of deforestation as determined with satellite imagery from 1996 to 2006. This is the projection that we obtained through modeling of the area. The Alto Mayo is probably the protected area in Peru that has the highest rate of deforestation in the country. It is crossed by a highway of national importance and is basically an area that is extremely threatened by migrants coming from depressed areas in the Andes into the Amazon.



We developed PDDs¹ that were consistent with the guidelines of the VCS and CCB² Standards. We measured about 150 current plots, and set up a monitoring system to reduce deforestation. On average, we are able to reduce emissions of about half a million tons of carbon and that will result in about a million dollars of resources that will be directly applied to the management of the area. As I mentioned, the project has been validated and verified under two standards, the Verified Carbon Standards and the CCB standard, so it is also providing significant co-benefits for communities, biodiversity, watershed protection, and climate adaptation.

¹Project Design Document

² The Climate, Community & Biodiversity Alliance: <http://www.climate-standards.org>



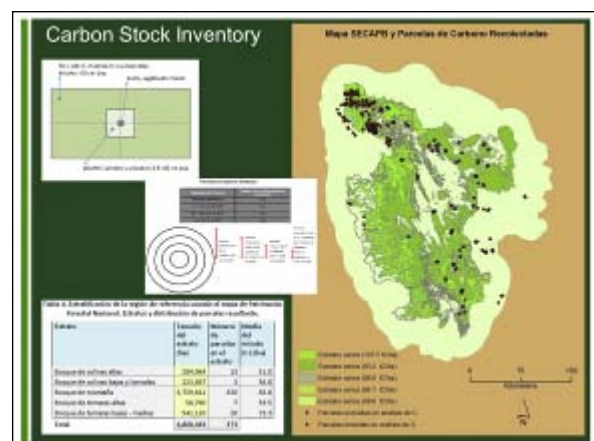
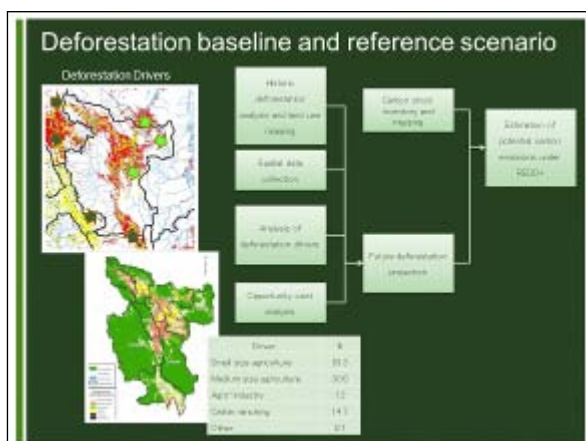
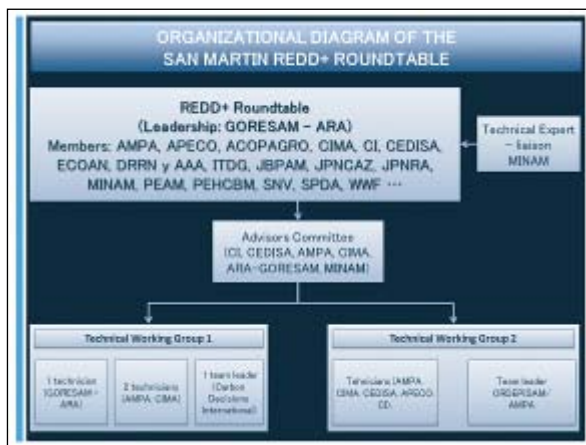
Our initiatives in the area do not stop there. We intend to work in a much larger area following the approach taken by the Peruvian Government in developing Subnational Jurisdictional Nested Models. The state of San Martin, where the Alto Mayo project is located, is also developing a REDD Program and following an initiative started by the project developers in the area. There are about four different REDD Projects being developed or implemented in San Martin. They decided to get together with the government to develop a REDD Program in order to allow the government of San Martin to work on areas not directly threatened, but that could be potentially threatened in the future.

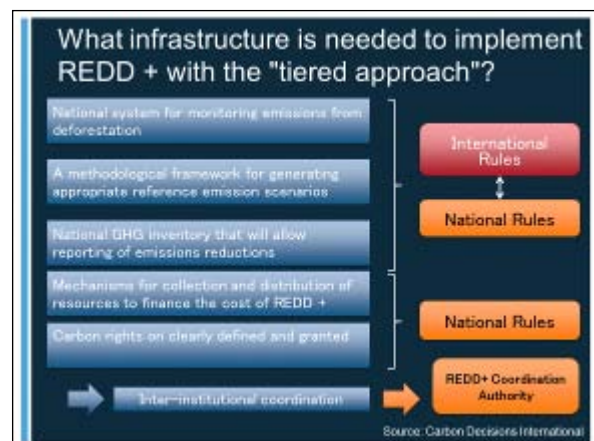
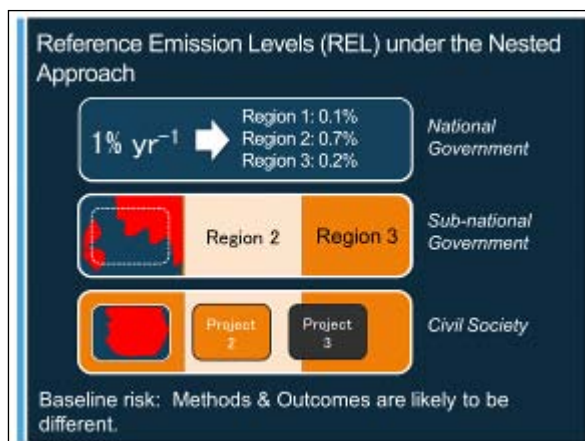
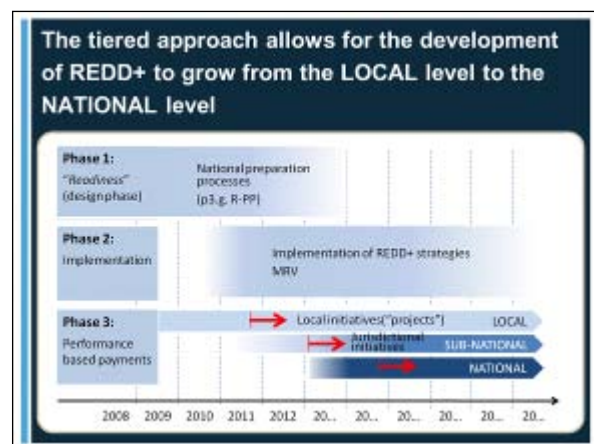
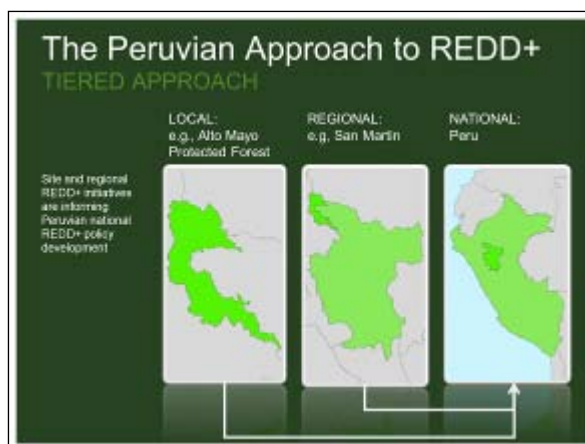
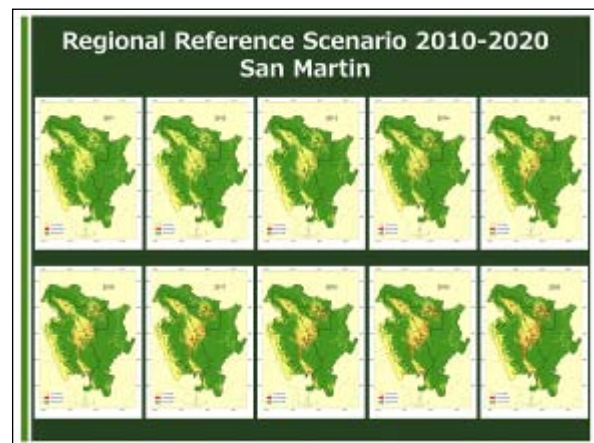
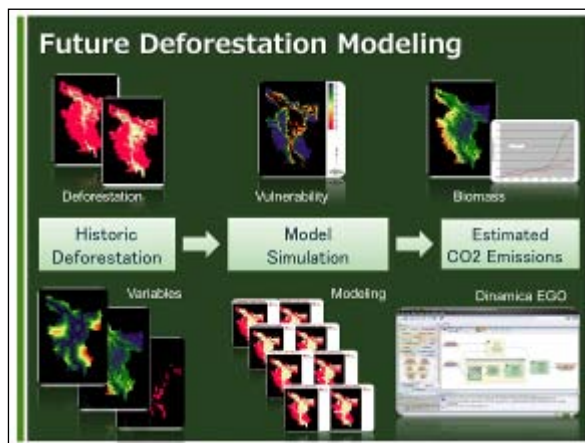


At the subnational level, the idea is to work together with stakeholders to develop the capacity of the government to establish baselines, reference scenarios, and to come up with a strategy that would allow the government of San Martin to implement a REDD Program at the jurisdictional level and that could serve as a model for the national government of Peru to develop a national strategy. The government of Peru stated in its RPP³ submitted to FCPF⁴ that San Martin and Madre de Dios are the regions where the models for REDD are going to be developed, but then are going to be used in the rest of the country for the

³Readiness Preparation Proposal


⁴Forest Carbon Partnership Facility: <http://www.forestcarbonpartnership.org>





Next steps

- Continue capacity building to San Martin Regional Government, REDD+ roundtable and MINAM
- Develop Jurisdictional and Nested REDD+ scheme for San Martin in partnership with VCS.
- Develop REDD+ SES for San Martin
- Continue supporting the Peruvian REDD+ strategy development based on the lessons learned from the San Martin model.



Some conclusions

1. The nested approach is a complex multi-stakeholder, multi-level, multi-sector process;
2. Ensure that the REDD+ initiatives are part of government's development plans to get their buy-in and support;
3. Importance of having clear institutional and methodological frameworks and regulations from the National Government early on;
4. Promote integration of REDD+ across all sectors of economy;
5. Need for extensive capacity building to all stakeholders at all levels;
6. Need to ensure that REDD+ initiatives are backed by rigorous technical and scientific analyses and standards.

Through the work of the REDD Round Table, we have created baselines and reference scenarios. We have analyzed drivers and agents of deforestation. We have jointly conducted the carbon stock inventory of the area and this is a very important aspect of the bottom-up approach because all projects as well, as the government, have contributed data from the corresponding areas and from areas in-between projects to come up with the carbon stock inventory for the entire region. This has resulted in a collaborative modeling. It is also important to note that doing this in a collaborative manner is also very important because all stakeholders need to agree and validate the modeling, the reference scenarios and the data produced.

Finally, at the national level, it is important to note this tiered approach also fits very well with the phased approach being described. Projects leading the way by providing valuable lessons to the national governments going up both to subnational and national governments while deforestation is already being stopped at the project level, which is important. We are not waiting to have the national government enact a national strategy to stop deforestation. We are stopping deforestation right now and providing the national government with important lessons on how to put all these initiatives together into a coherent and environmentally sound program for the entire country. I would be glad to answer any questions you might have.



THANKS!

**CONSERVATION
INTERNATIONAL** 
Peru

Our gratitude to:

- Communities of San Martin
- Regional Government of San Martin
- Ministry of Environment of Peru
- Peruvian Natural Protected Area Service
- Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation
- The Walt Disney Company